

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and a method are described that facilitate gear switching of a motor-driven spindle. A spindle head shaft is driven by a drive shaft via a gear mechanism in a first gear position. The drive shaft, including a rotor, can be switched from the first gear position to a second gear position where the spindle head shaft is connected by interference fit directly with the drive shaft without the interposed gear mechanism. The spindle head shaft can then be directly driven by the drive shaft in the second gear position. This eliminates the need to dismantle an anterior spindle from the drive unit.